

Traffic Volume Counts

2005 Annual Report



**Report Data collected and published by the
State of Maine
Department of Transportation
Traffic Engineering Division
In cooperation with the
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FOREWORD

The Department of Transportation, Traffic Engineering Division, and Traffic Monitoring Section is responsible for the collection of all types of traffic data and maintenance of a statewide traffic volume database. The reduction and reporting of traffic volumes and vehicle classification data are accomplished through two types of count programs. They are as follows:

CONTINUOUS COUNT PROGRAM

Traffic volumes are monitored on a continuous year round basis at forty-three permanent recorder sites located on major highways throughout the State. These hourly counts are collected to produce an average weekday figure, a weekly average day, a monthly average day, and a monthly average weekday. This information is compiled to develop an Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) figure for each location. The AADT is computed from the average of the weekly average day totals for the year.

The increasing demand to determine the types of vehicles (e.g. passenger cars, single-unit trucks, and semi's) traveling Maine's highways has prompted the development of a Continuous Classification Program. Currently, the department has eleven locations along routed highways that collect data based on thirteen categories as defined by the Federal Highway Administration. An AADT is computed based on the total volume as well as summary data for individual vehicle types. Future plans include the installation of additional sites statewide over the next several years.

24 HOUR TRAFFIC DATA COLLECTION PROGRAM

Between April 1st and November 15th of each year, 24 hour traffic counts (i.e., coverage counts) are gathered to monitor traffic flow and changes in traffic patterns. These counts are generally taken at intersections with major routes and/or other significant roads, Compact Urban Lines (CUL), or Town Lines (TL), or in coordination with ongoing projects or special traffic studies for the Department.

Additionally, 24-hour vehicle classification counts are performed in conjunction with the coverage counts to provide a comprehensive view of traffic along the routed highways.

The State is divided into three count zones:

ZONE I : Southwestern Maine to western Penobscot Bay region. This zone includes all of York, Cumberland, Sagadahoc, Lincoln, Knox, and Waldo counties, Oxford county from Albany Twp/Waterboro West & Oxford, Otisfield, as well as Poland, and Mechanic Falls in Androscoggin county.

ZONE II : Western/Central Maine and eastern Penobscot Bay region. This zone includes all of Androscoggin except Poland, and Mechanic Falls, Franklin, Kennebec counties, the remainder of Oxford county, Somerset county from Bingham south plus between Flagstaff Lake area and Kennebec River, southern Penobscot county, and western Hancock county.

ZONE III : Northern and eastern Maine. This zone includes all of Aroostook, Piscataquis, Washington counties, northern and southeastern Hancock county, Penobscot county from Lagrange north, and the remainder of Somerset county.

These zones are counted on a five year cycle: Zones I and II are counted twice and Zone III once during each five year period. The coverage count program also consists of the "Special Counts" taken each year to satisfy Departmental needs, local requests, and Federal requirements. These include the annual collection of data for the State's four urbanized areas (BACTS, KACTS, ATRC, and PACTS), Interstate System counts, and data collected from the various traffic studies conducted throughout the year. The 2005 Program included 4524 counts accomplished.

Once the AADT's have been computed for all of the permanent recorder locations, weekly factors for each station are computed by dividing the AADT by each average weekly figure. Those stations which exhibit similar traffic patterns are assembled and placed into one of three groups:

URBAN : Roadways which carry commuter traffic and exhibit little seasonal change in traffic volumes.

ARTERIAL : Roadways which carry commuter traffic but exhibit moderate seasonal changes in traffic volumes.

RECREATIONAL : Roadways which are heavily influenced by seasonal traffic.

Within each of the three groups, a factor for each week is computed by averaging the weekly factors from each station within the group.

The 2005 Weekly Group Mean Factors were developed by averaging the Weekly Group Mean Factor for 2002, 2003 and 2004. The following pages show the graph of the 2005 Weekly Group Mean Factors, a list of these factors, and the 2005 Weekly Group Mean Factor as a percent of the AADT.

The 24-hour raw data may now be grouped and assigned a factor to produce an AADT. Growth factors for expanding traffic in uncounted zones are developed utilizing data from the permanent recorders and comparing it to the data from the previous year.

The updated AADT's are entered into the Maine Department of Transportation's database to be used by various Departmental employees.

DESCRIPTION of HEADINGS, SYMBOLS, AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following is a description of the column headings, symbols, and abbreviations used for the Coverage Count Section.

TOWN The town in which a count was taken

ROUTE The road or highway on which the count was taken.

Non-Interstate Highways and Roads

---- X indicates a Routed Highway

0196X = SR 196

0001X = US Route 1

---- A or --- B indicates an Alternate Routed Highway

0001A = US Route 1A 0009B = SR 9B

---- C indicates a Business Route

0001C = Business US Route 1, 1A, or 1B

0025C = Business SR 25

Just a number with no letter OR no numbers or letters indicates a non-routed highway

= Pine Hill Road

00001 = Hubbard Road

01414 = IR 1414

00991 = IR 991 (Biddeford Road)

Interstate System

---- X indicates Northbound or Eastbound

0095X = I-95 Northbound

0395X = I-395 Eastbound

---- S indicates Southbound

0095S = I-95 Southbound

---- W indicates Westbound

0395W = I-395 Westbound

LOCATION

A description of where the count was taken.

APP = Approach	ART = Arterial	AVE = Avenue	BK = Brook	BLVD = Boulevard
BR = Bridge	CIR = Circle	CL = County Line	CNR = Corner	CONN = Connector
CTR = Center	CUL = Compact Urban Line		CWY = Cause way	CV = Cove
DR = Drive	EB = Eastbound	ENT = Entrance	FT = Fort	HTS = Heights
HWY = Highway	INT'L = International		IR = Inventory Road	LG = Long
LK = Lake	LN = Lane	LWR = Lower	MEM = Memorial	MT = Mount
MTN = Mountain	NB = Northbound	NH = New Hampshire	OW = One Way	PD = Pond
PK = Park	PKWY = Park Way	PL = Place	PT = Point	PW = Private Way
PZ = Plaza	RD = Road	RDG = Ridge	RMP = Ramp	RR = Railroad
RV = River	SB = Southbound	SL = State Line	SQ = Square	SR = State Route
ST = Street	STA = Station	STR = Stream	TER = Terrace	TL = Town Line
TPK = Turnpike	TR = Trail	UPR = Upper	US = United States Route	WB = Westbound

N/O, NE/O, E/O, etc. = North of, Northeast of, East of, etc.

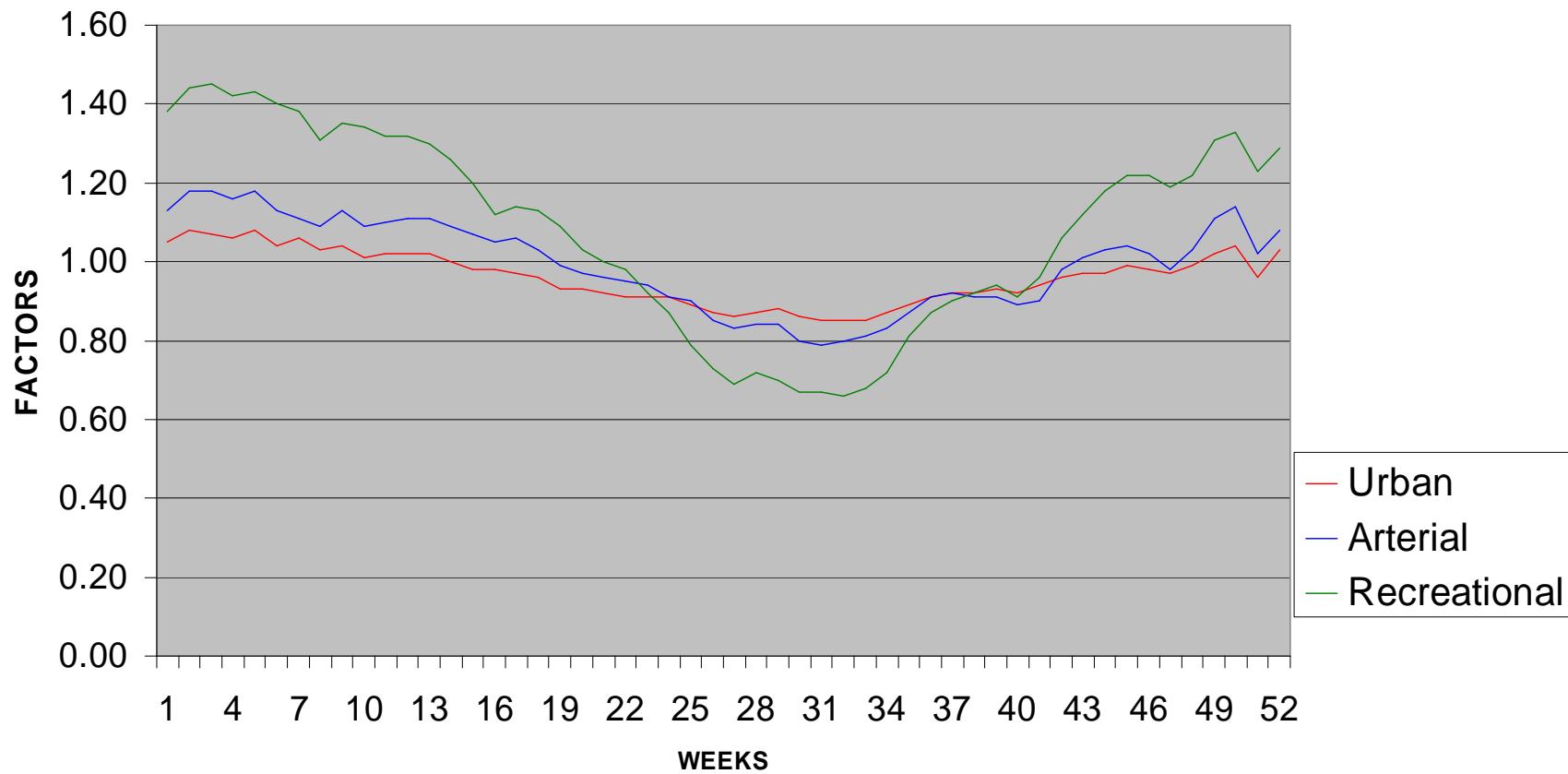
TYPE Category for each count taken.

- A** Permanent Recorder Count
- B** BACTS Count
- C** Coverage Count
- I** Interstate Count
- K** KACTS Count
- L** ATRC Count (Formerly LACTS)
- M** Municipal, Town, Regional Count

P	PACTS Count
S	Special Count
T	Turning Movement Count
<u>GROUP</u>	The factor group assigned to the location.
I	Urban Group
II	Arterial Group
III	Recreational Group
ATR	Permanent Recorder Controlled Group
<u>AADT</u>	<u>Annual</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Daily</u> Traffic

2005 WEEKLY GROUP FACTORS

AVERAGE: 2002, 2003, 2004



	(9)	10,11,12,13,14	2	106.38	111.11	104.17	41
	(16)	17,18,19,20,21	3	104.17	102.04	94.34	42
	(23)	24,25,26,27,28	4	103.09	99.01	89.29	43
	(30)	31,1,2,3,4	5	103.09	97.09	84.75	44
Nov/Dec	(6)	7,8,9,10,11	1	101.01	96.15	81.97	45
	(13)	14,15,16,17,18	2	102.04	98.04	81.97	46
	(20)	21,22,23,24,25	3	103.09	102.04	84.03	47
	(27)	28,29,30,1,2	4	101.01	97.09	81.97	48
December	(4)	5,6,7,8,9	1	98.04	90.09	76.34	49
	(11)	12,13,14,15,16	2	96.15	87.72	75.19	50
	(18)	19,20,21,22,23	3	104.17	98.04	81.30	51
	(25)	26,27,28,29,30	4	97.09	92.59	77.52	52

